Investment limit on new Automobile Ventures

2411. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided not to impose "Investment limit on new automobile ventures" as reported in the Hindustan Times, dated 23rd February, 2001;

(b) if so, what are the details of present Government's Automobile Policy;

(c) what suggestions in this regard have been given by "SIAM", the apex body of the Industry;

(d) what steps Government have taken to ensure that no screwdriver technology comes to India through indiscriminate imports; and

(e) whether Government propose to give major incentives to alternative fuels and components in order to check increasing emission levels and also to reduce dependence on conventional fuels in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABH BHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (e) The Auto Policy is still under formulation and it will be announced once it is finalised. The representation received from various quarters will be taken into consideration while formulating the Auto Policy.

Heavy Industries in Backward Districts

2412. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Mnister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up heavy industries in the backward districts of the country during the Ninth Plan;